

# LaRouche PAC

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Testimony by Dr. Debra Hanania Freeman, national spokeswoman

“PRESERVING DEMOCRACY - WHAT WENT WRONG IN OHIO?”

December 8, 2004

On behalf on Lyndon LaRouche and the LaRouche PAC, as well as the tens of thousands of American voters who found themselves disenfranchised on Election Day, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank Chairman Conyers and the members of the panel for holding this crucial forum and putting a spotlight on the grave violations of the U.S. Constitution that in this 2004 Presidential election.

During a webcast forum that was held here in Washington, D.C. on November 9, Lyndon LaRouche declared that, “Those Republicans who engaged in vote suppression around the Nov. 2 Presidential elections are guilty of the crime of violation of the Federal Voting Rights Act and of the U.S. Constitution, LaRouche said that, “from a Constitutional law standpoint, what was made was a not-so-cold coup d'etat against the United States Constitution.”

“Voter suppression—that's tyranny!” LaRouche charged. “That's dictatorship.... What is pouring in, in terms of evidence, day by day, is the evidence of a massive fraud by the Republican Party, which amounts to practically a criminal conspiracy.”

In response to a number of questions about the fraud and irregularities in the elections, LaRouche said that the Republicans had taken advantage of the fact that the Democratic Party had not mobilized sufficiently among the lower 80% of the population, instead still orienting way too much toward the suburban “swing” voters, as it has in recent elections. To defeat the fraud being planned by the Republicans, required that the Democrats organize a landslide, but only the forces around LaRouche and those working with us, mobilized in this manner.

But otherwise, the Democratic Party was the “sitting duck party,” LaRouche said, and was totally unprepared for the criminal operations that the Republican Party was planning.

The very fact of voter suppression is a violation of the Voting Rights Act, LaRouche said, and we should go from that, to look at the secondary crimes that were committed. Referring to Ohio Secretary of State Kenneth Blackwell, LaRouche said that the Republicans "had this guy, this so-called African-American ... saying he's in charge of the vote suppression program!" LaRouche said that this is an admission of a crime, adding: "It's a violation of Federal law, and I would go after that because a coup was run against the American people and the Constitution, by a violation of that law."

LaRouche elaborated: "Voter suppression is subversion, and a party that engages in voter suppression, the officials of that party who engage in that and those who knowingly cooperate in that program, are guilty of a crime, of violation of the Voters Rights Act, and they should be imprisoned for the relevant period of time, and they should be squeezed for all its worth.... What we have to do is take the moral high ground of authority, and say, well, you guys committed a crime. You allowed a crime to go on, called vote suppression. You were trying every pretext in the world to suppress the votes of people, known groups of people, and you were targeting on a racist and similar basis. It's a crime. And I would say to these, let's start from the strong point that we have. We have a lot of evidence of irregularities, a lot of evidence of corruption. Things that could not have happened by accident. And therefore, let's start with what we've got the goods on these guys for. They engaged in a systemic voter suppression action. That had an effect on the vote. Therefore, you guys are guilty of a crime! Say, good morning, judge."

I should note here that Mr. LaRouche's full remarks on voter suppression are included in the [video archive](#) and [written transcript](#) of his Nov. 9 webcast address which is available on the LaRouche PAC website <http://www.larouchepac.com>.

In a statement he released on December 6, Mr. LaRouche called on Democrats, and others, to start their battle against the insane, unconstitutional Bush Administration with an all-out battle against the voter suppression carried out by the Republicans in the Nov. 2 election. Reiterating his statement during his Nov. 9 webcast, he charged that the Republicans had carried out a "not-so-cold coup" against the Constitution, by violating the Voting Rights Act with a policy of voter suppression, particularly among expected Kerry voters.

At the same time, LaRouche identified George W. Bush's plans to rip off Social Security through privatization, as the second major focal point for a mobilization to salvage the country, from the dangers presented by the insane second Bush Administration. Bush's privatization plans will, as currently estimated by the Congressional Budget Office, create a \$2-trillion hole in the system, and require the cutting of benefits up to 45%.

"With these two national focal points of mobilization," LaRouche said, "we have the best chance to revitalize the American political system, both by rebuilding the Democratic Party as an effective force, and building relationships between Democrats and those traditional Republicans, who understand the danger which

George W. Bush's election, and lies, represent for our nation."

Mr. LaRouche has enthusiastically supported leading Democrats, like Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.), who are collecting the evidence of voter suppression, and has urged that that evidence be used to bring criminal charges, and jail those who committed this Federal crime. He has further urged that the evidence be compiled to be presented to the full House and Senate on or before Jan. 6—which is when Congress meets in Joint Session to certify the Electoral College votes.

To understand the type of mobilization which is needed, I think it is worth recalling what happened four years ago. In a webcast held by LaRouche on Jan. 3, 2001, a member of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) posed a question about the pending nomination of John Ashcroft as U.S. Attorney General. LaRouche insisted that the Congress had to use every means at its disposal to block the Ashcroft nomination, because it signalled the intent to launch a coup against the Constitution. LaRouche explained that Hitler's ultimate consolidation of power in 1933, after his rise to the Chancellorship, came as a result of a series of emergency measures crafted by Nazi jurist Carl Schmitt. Those measures were enacted under the pretext of the Reichstag fire, which burned the German parliament building, and Hitler's dictatorship was thereby firmly established.

LaRouche's startling response reverberated through Washington, and especially the CBC, and thus, when the time came for Bush's election to be certified by Congress a few days later, members of the CBC staged a dramatic action on the floor of the Joint Session, rising one after another to object to the Florida electoral vote, citing the history of the civil rights movement and the Voting Rights Act. Although the Caucus was unsuccessful in persuading a single member of the Senate to support their valiant cause—as is required to allow an objection to an electoral vote to proceed—they captured national attention. Following Bush's certification, the drive to stop Ashcroft grew. By the time his nomination came to the Senate floor, there were a sufficient number of U.S. Senators organized and ready to block Ashcroft's confirmation. At the very last moment, Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle, in an act of betrayal that probably cost him his Senate seat in 2004, ordered Democratic Senators to halt their resistance, and confirm Ashcroft.

Today, we are much stronger than we were then. A growing number of Democratic leaders recognize the importance of making a fight on this issue, as LaRouche has specified. One key Democrat noted to me last week, that making a fight on this point—even if it does not succeed in depriving Bush and Cheney of a second term—will deliver a clear and reverberating message, that the synarchists' attempted coup will not be a "cold" one, but that they had better be prepared to deal with people who are prepared to fight back.

I would like to think that with this action today, that message will begin to ring out across our great nation.

Thank you.

\*\*\*\*\*More extensive remarks by Mr. LaRouche on voter suppression can be found on the LaRouche PAC website, [www.larouchepac.com](http://www.larouchepac.com), both in his aforementioned November 9 speech, and in an address to the LaRouche Youth Movement in Seattle on Dec. 4